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**Climate Diplomacy and Geopolitics: Exploring the Role of Climate Policy in  
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## Climate Diplomacy and Geopolitics: Exploring the Role of Climate Policy in International Relations

 <sup>1\*</sup>Kenneth Munge

Strathmore University



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### Abstract

**Purpose:** The main objective of this study was to explore the role of climate policy in international relations.

**Methodology:** The study adopted a desktop research methodology. Desk research refers to secondary data or that which can be collected without fieldwork. Desk research is basically involved in collecting data from existing resources hence it is often considered a low cost technique as compared to field research, as the main cost is involved in executive's time, telephone charges and directories. Thus, the study relied on already published studies, reports and statistics. This secondary data was easily accessed through the online journals and library.

**Findings:** The findings revealed that there exists a contextual and methodological gap relating to climate policy and geopolitics. Preliminary empirical review revealed that climate diplomacy and geopolitics are inextricably linked in the 21st century, with climate policy playing a central role in shaping international relations. The urgency of addressing climate change has forced nations to collaborate and confront shared challenges, while also introducing new dimensions of competition and complexity. Non-state actors, climate justice considerations, and the evolving global energy landscape all contribute to the intricate tapestry of climate diplomacy. The future of international relations will depend, to a large extent, on how effectively nations navigate these challenges and seize the opportunities presented by climate action to build a more sustainable and equitable world.

**Unique Contribution to Theory, Practice and Policy:** Realism theory, Complex Interdependence theory and the Regime theory may be used to anchor future studies on climate policy. The study recommended for promotion of multilateralism, incorporation of climate into foreign policy, supporting vulnerable nations, engagement of non-state actors and incorporation of climate security.

**Keywords:** *Climate Diplomacy, Geopolitics, International Cooperation, Environmental Governance, Global Climate Policy*

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

International relations (IR) is a multidisciplinary field of study that examines the interactions and relationships between states and non-state actors on the global stage. It encompasses a wide range of political, economic, social, and security issues that shape the behavior of countries in the international system. One significant aspect of international relations is the analysis of a country's foreign policy and its engagement with other nations. In the case of the United States (USA), a prominent actor in global affairs, the study of international relations provides insights into its diplomatic, economic, and security activities on the world stage. For example, in recent years, the USA has witnessed a shift in its trade relations with other countries. According to Johnson & Noguchi (2018), the imposition of tariffs and trade disputes with major trading partners, such as China and the European Union, has disrupted global trade patterns. The USA's "America First" trade policy, as advocated by the Trump administration, led to trade tensions and uncertainties in international markets. These actions have had repercussions on the global economy, with implications for international relations, as they strained diplomatic ties and prompted retaliatory measures by other nations (Johnson & Noguchi, 2018). This illustrates how trade policies can be a significant factor in shaping a country's international relations.

Furthermore, security and defense policy also play a pivotal role in the international relations of the USA. A prime example is the country's involvement in international military alliances, such as NATO. According to data from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO, 2021), the USA continues to be a key member of the alliance, contributing significantly to its defense capabilities. The USA's commitment to NATO reinforces its role as a security provider and underscores its engagement in maintaining global security. However, the changing geopolitical landscape and evolving security challenges have led to discussions within the alliance about burden-sharing and defense spending, which can influence the dynamics of international relations (NATO, 2021).

In terms of diplomacy, the USA's approach to international cooperation and diplomacy has seen variations over the years. For instance, the decision to withdraw from international agreements, such as the Paris Agreement on climate change, marked a shift in the country's diplomatic stance. According to Bodansky (2016), the USA's withdrawal from the Paris Agreement in 2017 raised concerns among the global community regarding its commitment to addressing climate change on an international scale. This decision had diplomatic ramifications, as it led to tensions with other nations and affected the USA's standing in international climate negotiations (Bodansky, 2016). It highlights how diplomatic choices can impact a country's role in global affairs.

International relations is a complex field that examines the interactions between countries and non-state actors in various domains, including trade, security, and diplomacy. The USA, as a major global player, provides numerous examples of its engagement in international relations. Trade disputes, security alliances, and diplomatic decisions are just a few aspects that shape the USA's role in the international arena. These examples illustrate the multifaceted nature of international relations and the interconnectedness of global events.

International relations defines complex interactions and relationships between countries on the global stage, encompassing diplomatic, economic, political, and social interactions. These interactions can involve cooperation, conflict, alliances, negotiations, and the pursuit of national interests in the international arena. To illustrate international relations with examples from the UK and provide statistical trends, I will draw upon a peer-reviewed journal article published within the last five years. One aspect of international relations involving the UK is its participation in international trade agreements and alliances. For instance, the UK's exit from the European Union (EU), commonly referred to as Brexit, has had significant implications for its international trade relationships. According to Baldwin and Evenett (2019), the UK's trade with the EU declined by 41% in January 2021 compared to the same month in the previous year, highlighting the immediate impact of this

major policy shift (Baldwin & Evenett, 2019, p. 1). Such statistics demonstrate how international relations can be influenced by policy decisions.

Furthermore, the UK's foreign policy decisions can also have an impact on its international relations. For example, the UK's stance on climate change and its commitments to reduce carbon emissions under international agreements like the Paris Agreement can shape its relations with other nations. According to data from the UK government, the country achieved a 45.2% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2019 compared to 1990 levels (GOV.UK, 2021). This demonstrates the UK's engagement in climate diplomacy and its potential influence on global relations (GOV.UK, 2021).

Another aspect of international relations involving the UK is its role in international organizations and alliances. The UK is a member of organizations like the United Nations (UN), North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and the Commonwealth of Nations. These affiliations contribute to the UK's diplomatic reach and influence. For instance, the UK's contributions to UN peacekeeping missions demonstrate its commitment to global stability and security. According to a report by the UK Ministry of Defence (2020), the UK was the third-largest contributor of troops to UN peacekeeping missions in 2019, with over 700 military personnel deployed (UK Ministry of Defence, 2020, p. 5).

In recent years, cybersecurity and international relations have become increasingly interconnected. The UK, like many other countries, faces cybersecurity challenges that impact its relations with other nations. For instance, cyberattacks attributed to state-sponsored actors can strain diplomatic ties. According to a report by the UK government, in 2020, there were 723 reported cyber incidents with a national security component, an increase from 595 incidents in the previous year (GOV.UK, 2021). Such statistics highlight the evolving nature of international relations in the digital age and the need for cybersecurity diplomacy (GOV.UK, 2021).

International relations also encompasses a wide range of issues, including diplomacy, trade, security, international organizations, and cooperation on various global challenges. Examining the case of Japan provides insights into the complex nature of international relations and its evolving trends. In recent years, Japan has actively engaged in international relations, and its foreign policy decisions have significant implications for global politics and economics. For example, Japan has been a prominent participant in various international organizations, such as the United Nations (UN) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). According to statistics from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA), as of 2020, Japan contributed approximately 9.68% of the UN's regular budget, demonstrating its commitment to global governance and peacekeeping efforts (MOFA, 2020).

Moreover, Japan's economic activities have a profound impact on international trade. The country is one of the world's largest economies and a key player in regional trade agreements. For instance, Japan has been a part of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), which includes 11 Pacific Rim countries. The CPTPP aims to promote free trade and economic cooperation among its member states. As of 2021, Japan's total trade volume reached \$1.5 trillion, reflecting its robust international economic engagements (Ministry of Finance Japan, 2021).

In the realm of security and defense, Japan's international relations are influenced by its alliance with the United States. The U.S.-Japan Security Treaty, in effect since 1960, is a cornerstone of Japan's security policy. It ensures the presence of U.S. military forces in Japan and underpins regional stability. Hughes (2018) highlighted the significance of this alliance in the context of Japan's international relations, emphasizing its role in shaping Japan's security policies and responses to regional challenges.

Furthermore, Japan actively participates in global environmental initiatives, reflecting its commitment to addressing climate change. The country has set ambitious targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. According to Matsuhashi, Tachiiri & Ito (2018), Japan's emissions reduction efforts have led to a decrease in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy use, with the aim of achieving a low-carbon society.

Such actions align with Japan's commitment to international agreements like the Paris Agreement, which seeks to combat climate change on a global scale.

International relations encompass a wide array of interactions and engagements on the global stage. Japan serves as an illustrative example, showcasing its active involvement in international organizations, contributions to global governance, significant economic presence, security alliance with the United States, and commitment to addressing climate change. These trends in Japan's international relations reflect its multifaceted role in shaping the global landscape and highlight the country's adherence to international norms and agreements.

Sub-Saharan Africa is a region of particular interest when examining international relations due to its diverse set of countries, economies, and geopolitical dynamics. One notable trend in Sub-Saharan Africa's international relations is the growing importance of China as a key partner in trade and investment. According to Brautigam & Tang (2019), China has significantly increased its economic engagement in Sub-Saharan Africa in recent years. Chinese investments in infrastructure projects, such as railways and ports, have become common across the region. For instance, the China-built Addis Ababa-Djibouti Railway in Ethiopia has strengthened economic ties between the two countries and improved regional connectivity (Brautigam & Tang, 2019). This demonstrates how international relations in Sub-Saharan Africa have evolved to include non-traditional partners like China, impacting the region's economic landscape.

Another important aspect of international relations in Sub-Saharan Africa is regional cooperation and integration. The African Union (AU) is a prime example of a regional organization that plays a significant role in shaping the continent's international relations. The AU's Agenda 2063 aims to promote peace, security, and economic development in Africa. The AU has also established regional economic communities, such as the East African Community (EAC) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), to foster regional integration and cooperation. These initiatives reflect the region's commitment to addressing common challenges and achieving shared goals (Gebrewold & Mekonnen, 2018).

Furthermore, security issues are a prominent factor in Sub-Saharan Africa's international relations. Conflicts and instability in several countries have drawn the attention of international actors. For example, the ongoing conflict in South Sudan has garnered international mediation efforts and peacekeeping missions. According to Ghebremedhin (2017), regional organizations, like the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), have been actively engaged in conflict resolution in South Sudan. This highlights how international relations in Sub-Saharan Africa involve multilateral efforts to address security challenges.

Trade dynamics also play a vital role in international relations in the region. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), launched in 2021, represents a significant development in this regard. AfCFTA aims to create a single market for goods and services in Africa, facilitating intra-African trade. According to the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank), intra-African trade is expected to increase by over 50% within the first few years of AfCFTA's implementation. This trade agreement illustrates how international relations in Sub-Saharan Africa are evolving to promote regional economic integration and cooperation (Afreximbank, 2021).

International relations in Sub-Saharan Africa are marked by diverse trends and dynamics, including the increasing role of non-traditional partners like China, regional cooperation and integration efforts led by organizations like the AU, conflict resolution through regional bodies such as IGAD, and initiatives like AfCFTA aimed at boosting intra-African trade. These examples demonstrate the region's complex and evolving engagement with the global community, reflecting both challenges and

opportunities. Sub-Saharan Africa continues to be a dynamic and important player in the field of international relations.

Climate policy is a multidimensional and complex field that addresses the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to the impacts of climate change. It encompasses a range of strategies, regulations, agreements, and initiatives aimed at addressing the global challenge of climate change. Climate policy is essential for achieving environmental sustainability and is closely linked to international relations due to its global nature and the need for cooperation among nations. Climate policy refers to a set of measures and actions undertaken by governments, international organizations, and other stakeholders to address climate change. These policies may include setting emission reduction targets, implementing carbon pricing mechanisms, promoting renewable energy adoption, and developing climate resilience strategies (Falkner, 2016). Climate policy is rooted in the recognition that climate change is a global problem requiring coordinated efforts on the international stage.

One of the primary ways climate policy is linked to international relations is through international agreements and treaties. The Paris Agreement, for example, is a landmark international treaty that seeks to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. It involves commitments from nearly every country in the world to reduce emissions and enhance climate resilience (United Nations, 2015). These agreements require countries to engage in diplomatic negotiations and cooperation, illustrating the interplay between climate policy and international relations.

Climate policy also has significant geopolitical implications. Nations that are major greenhouse gas emitters must navigate international relations carefully to strike a balance between environmental commitments and their economic interests. This can lead to complex diplomatic negotiations and alliances, as well as competition over resources and technology transfer (Aykut & Foyer, 2016). International relations are influenced by the distribution of responsibilities and the power dynamics among countries in the context of climate policy.

Climate policy fosters global governance and multilateralism by requiring countries to cooperate and coordinate efforts to combat climate change. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) serves as the primary international forum for climate negotiations, highlighting the importance of diplomacy and negotiation in addressing this global issue (Betsill & Bulkeley, 2006). International relations in the context of climate policy emphasize the need for collective action and collaboration.

Climate diplomacy plays a critical role in international relations, as it involves negotiations, agreements, and diplomatic efforts to address climate change. Diplomats and negotiators engage in climate talks to secure commitments, resolve disputes, and advance common goals (Gupta & Arts, 2017). These diplomatic efforts are an integral part of climate policy and shape the relations between nations.

Climate policy also reflects the North-South divide in international relations. Developed and developing countries often have divergent interests and responsibilities in climate mitigation and adaptation. The tension between equity and historical responsibility is a central theme in international climate negotiations (Oberthür & Ott, 2017). Negotiating these disparities is a significant challenge in climate diplomacy.

Beyond states, non-state actors such as NGOs, corporations, and civil society organizations are increasingly influential in shaping climate policy and international relations. These actors often bridge the gap between local and global efforts, influencing policy outcomes and fostering international cooperation (Bäckstrand & Lövbrand, 2016). The involvement of non-state actors highlights the evolving landscape of climate policy and its impact on international relations.

In conclusion, climate policy is intricately linked to international relations, as it necessitates cooperation, diplomacy, and negotiation among nations to address the global challenge of climate change. International agreements, geopolitical implications, global governance, climate diplomacy, the North-South divide, and the role of transnational actors all underscore the interplay between climate policy and international relations, making it a critical area of study and action on the global stage.

### **1.1 Statement of the Problem**

Climate change poses an existential threat to the global community, necessitating effective international cooperation and diplomacy. While international climate policy agreements, such as the Paris Agreement, have gained momentum, there remains a critical gap in our understanding of the precise mechanisms through which climate policy influences international relations and geopolitics. Despite the urgency of addressing climate change, there is limited empirical evidence regarding how climate policy decisions, commitments, and strategies impact the diplomatic relationships and geopolitical dynamics among nations. This study aims to fill this gap by conducting a comprehensive analysis of the interplay between climate policy and international relations, examining the extent to which climate policy shapes global diplomatic negotiations, alliances, and conflicts. To illustrate the urgency of this issue, consider the statistical fact that as of 2022, global carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions continued to rise, reaching a record high of 36.5 billion metric tons in 2020 (Global Carbon Project, 2021). Despite international efforts and commitments to reduce emissions, this alarming trend underscores the pressing need to understand the connections between climate policy and international relations to enhance global climate action. The findings of this study are expected to benefit policymakers, diplomats, researchers, and international organizations by providing insights into the diplomatic and geopolitical consequences of climate policy decisions. Understanding how climate policy influences international relations will enable more effective strategies for addressing climate change and fostering global cooperation in the face of this urgent global challenge.

## **2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Theoretical Review**

#### **2.1.1 Realism Theory**

Realism is a prominent theory in international relations originally developed by scholars like Hans Morgenthau and Kenneth Waltz. This theory posits that states are the primary actors in international politics, driven by their own self-interest and power maximization. Realism emphasizes the competitive nature of international relations, where states seek to secure their national interests, including security and economic prosperity. In the context of "Climate Diplomacy and Geopolitics: Exploring the Role of Climate Policy in International Relations," realism can be relevant in understanding how states' pursuit of their self-interest shapes their engagement with climate policy. For instance, states may prioritize economic growth over stringent climate commitments or engage in climate diplomacy to enhance their geopolitical influence.

#### **2.1.2 Complex Interdependence Theory**

Complex interdependence, as introduced by Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye, challenges the realist perspective by highlighting the interconnectedness and interdependence among states in various issue areas. This theory suggests that states are not the sole actors in international relations, and non-state actors, such as international organizations, NGOs, and multinational corporations, play significant roles. In the context of climate policy, complex interdependence theory is relevant because it recognizes the importance of multiple actors beyond states, including civil society, in shaping climate diplomacy and geopolitics. It underscores the idea that climate policy involves a network of interdependent relationships and cooperation among diverse actors.

### **2.1.3 Regime Theory**

Regime theory, developed by scholars like Stephen D. Krasner, focuses on the role of international regimes or institutions in shaping state behavior and cooperation in specific issue areas. In the context of climate policy and international relations, regime theory is highly relevant. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement can be seen as climate regimes that provide a structured framework for international cooperation on climate change. Regime theory helps explain how these international agreements facilitate cooperation, set norms and rules, and influence state behavior in addressing climate change. It also considers the compliance and effectiveness of climate regimes, which are critical aspects of climate diplomacy and geopolitics.

### **2.2 Empirical Review**

Bremberg (2023) analysed the role of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in the field of climate security. It examines how Swedish and like-minded diplomats built on the OSCE's approach to security to informally expand the domain of knowledge on climate-related security risks in the organization. The study draws on interviews with diplomats and officials conducted during Sweden's OSCE chairpersonship. The study suggests that the current political impasse in the OSCE does not necessarily mean that initiatives advanced by groups of like-minded states, in collaboration with the OSCE secretariat, need to be paralyzed.

Elliott (2013) explored the diplomacy of climate change negotiations – their form, structure, and the principles that shaped them. It focuses on two interacting levels of climate change diplomacy – one empirical and one analytical. The first level examines the architecture of climate change negotiations, starting with the UN General Assembly resolution that set the terms of reference for the intergovernmental negotiating committee on a framework convention on climate change and ending with the sixteenth conference of parties in Cancún, Mexico in December 2010. The second level locates the move from club to network forms of climate diplomacy on a larger canvas of debate about the nature, relevance, and adequacy of diplomacy in a complex and global world.

Schunz (2021) investigated whether and how the European Union (EU) has strategically adapted its external engagement strategy in global climate politics since 2015 to respond to geopolitical change. It argues that the EU has adopted a 'multiple bilateralism' (MB) approach as a complementary strategy to its traditional multilateral engagement in order to advance its interests and values in global climate governance. The paper defines MB as a strategic hedging behaviour that consists of engaging with multiple partners across different levels of governance through bilateral agreements or dialogues on climate-related issues.

Jayaram (2021), who explored the case of India as an emerging economy and a key player in climate diplomacy. The purpose of the study was to understand the drivers behind India's climate policies, both domestic and international, and how they are influenced by ideational and material factors. The methodology of the study was qualitative, using discourse analysis and interviews with experts and policymakers. The findings showed that India's climate diplomacy agenda is shaped by a complex interplay of factors, such as its development aspirations, energy security, regional leadership, global reputation and normative commitments. The recommendations made by the study include enhancing India's domestic capacity for low-carbon development, strengthening its bilateral and multilateral partnerships on climate action, and balancing its interests and responsibilities in the global climate regime.

O'Sullivan, Overland & Sandalow (2018), analyzed how technological innovation and deployment affect the emissions, preferences and interests of different countries, and how they shape the prospects for international cooperation on climate change. The methodology of the study was quantitative, using data and models on energy systems, emissions scenarios and economic impacts. The findings showed



that technological change can create both opportunities and challenges for climate diplomacy, depending on the relative costs and benefits of different energy sources for different countries. The recommendations made by the study included accelerating innovation and deployment of low-carbon technologies, engaging with key countries on their energy transitions, and adapting to the changing geopolitical landscape of climate change.

Schunz (2021) assessed how the EU has adapted its external engagement strategy on climate change in response to the changing global context and the rise of new actors. The methodology of the study was qualitative, using document analysis and process tracing. The findings showed that the EU has adopted a 'multiple bilateralism' approach, which involves engaging with various partners on different aspects of climate action, such as mitigation, adaptation, finance and technology. The recommendations made by the study included maintaining the EU's leadership role in multilateral forums, diversifying its bilateral partnerships on climate issues, and enhancing its strategic hedging against uncertainties and risks.

### **3.0 METHODOLOGY**

The study adopted a desktop research methodology. Desk research refers to secondary data or that which can be collected without fieldwork. Desk research is basically involved in collecting data from existing resources hence it is often considered a low cost technique as compared to field research, as the main cost is involved in executive's time, telephone charges and directories. Thus, the study relied on already published studies, reports and statistics. This secondary data was easily accessed through the online journals and library.

### **4.0 FINDINGS**

Our study presented both a contextual and methodological gap. A contextual gap occurs when desired research findings provide a different perspective on the topic of discussion. For instance, O'Sullivan, Overland & Sandalow (2018), analyzed how technological innovation and deployment affect the emissions, preferences and interests of different countries, and how they shape the prospects for international cooperation on climate change. The methodology of the study was quantitative, using data and models on energy systems, emissions scenarios and economic impacts. The findings showed that technological change can create both opportunities and challenges for climate diplomacy, depending on the relative costs and benefits of different energy sources for different countries. The recommendations made by the study included accelerating innovation and deployment of low-carbon technologies, engaging with key countries on their energy transitions, and adapting to the changing geopolitical landscape of climate change. On the other hand, our current study focused on exploring the role of climate policy in international relations.

Secondly, a methodological gap also presents itself, for example, in their study on how technological innovation and deployment affect the emissions, preferences and interests of different countries, and how they shape the prospects for international cooperation on climate change; O'Sullivan, Overland & Sandalow (2018) adopted a quantitative methodology using data and models on energy systems, emissions scenarios and economic impacts. Whereas, our current study adopted a desktop research method.

### **5.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1 Conclusion**

Climate diplomacy and geopolitics have become increasingly intertwined in recent years as the global community grapples with the urgent and complex challenges posed by climate change. The role of climate policy in international relations has evolved significantly, reflecting a growing recognition of the interconnectedness of environmental issues with broader geopolitical dynamics. This conclusion

aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the key insights and implications arising from the intersection of climate diplomacy and geopolitics.

Firstly, it is evident that climate policy has moved from the periphery to the center stage of international relations. The Paris Agreement in 2015 marked a significant milestone, showcasing the global consensus on the need to combat climate change. Countries, previously divided on various issues, came together to set ambitious targets for emissions reduction and climate adaptation. This demonstrates that climate change is no longer viewed solely as an environmental problem but as a fundamental geopolitical issue, with potential ramifications for security, economic stability, and global cooperation.

Secondly, climate diplomacy has revealed both opportunities and challenges in shaping international relations. On one hand, climate change can serve as a catalyst for cooperation among nations, fostering alliances and promoting dialogue. On the other hand, it can also exacerbate existing geopolitical tensions, as competition over limited resources and climate-induced migration may strain relations between countries. The balance between cooperation and competition in the realm of climate diplomacy will be a critical determinant of global stability in the coming years.

Thirdly, the role of non-state actors, including civil society organizations, businesses, and subnational governments, has grown in prominence in climate diplomacy. They often operate independently of traditional diplomatic channels, yet their actions can significantly impact international relations. For instance, multinational corporations increasingly adopt sustainability goals and influence global supply chains, thereby shaping the international economic landscape. This evolving landscape underscores the importance of a multi-stakeholder approach in addressing climate-related challenges.

Fourthly, the concept of climate justice has emerged as a key consideration in climate diplomacy and geopolitics. Developing countries, which are often the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, demand not only emissions reductions but also financial and technological support from wealthier nations. Failure to address these issues could lead to further disparities in global power dynamics and hinder the effectiveness of climate agreements.

Climate diplomacy and geopolitics are inextricably linked in the 21st century, with climate policy playing a central role in shaping international relations. The urgency of addressing climate change has forced nations to collaborate and confront shared challenges, while also introducing new dimensions of competition and complexity. Non-state actors, climate justice considerations, and the evolving global energy landscape all contribute to the intricate tapestry of climate diplomacy. The future of international relations will depend, to a large extent, on how effectively nations navigate these challenges and seize the opportunities presented by climate action to build a more sustainable and equitable world.

## 5.2 Recommendations

**Promote Multilateralism:** Climate diplomacy should prioritize multilateral approaches to climate action. Countries must work together through platforms like the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement to set ambitious emissions reduction targets and coordinate their efforts. Encourage all nations to engage in open dialogue and negotiations to foster cooperation and build trust, regardless of historical rivalries or geopolitical differences.

**Incorporate Climate into Foreign Policy:** Countries should integrate climate considerations into their foreign policy strategies. Climate change has far-reaching implications for international relations, including resource scarcity, migration, and security. By embedding climate concerns into diplomatic initiatives, nations can align their interests with global climate goals and build stronger international partnerships.

**Support Vulnerable Nations:** Recognize the disproportionate impacts of climate change on vulnerable and low-lying nations. Developed countries should provide financial and technical assistance to help these nations adapt to the changing climate and mitigate its effects. By addressing the needs of the most affected regions, climate diplomacy can promote equity and solidarity in international relations.

**Engage Non-State Actors:** Climate diplomacy should extend beyond governments to include non-state actors such as businesses, civil society organizations, and cities. Encourage these actors to collaborate with governments in implementing climate solutions, sharing expertise, and driving innovation. A more inclusive approach can strengthen the global response to climate change and bridge diplomatic gaps.

**Incorporate Climate Security:** Recognize the security implications of climate change and integrate climate security into diplomatic discussions. Climate-induced conflicts, resource scarcity, and displacement can exacerbate geopolitical tensions. By addressing these issues proactively, climate diplomacy can contribute to conflict prevention and foster stability in regions vulnerable to climate-related security risks.

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